



Appln. No.: 10/546,542
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled).
2. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim + 12, wherein the rubber composition has a viscosity of not more than 2 kPa·s as measured at a shearing rate of 750 s^{-1} and a temperature of 100°C according to ASTM D5099-93, and a tensile stress at 100% elongation of not less than 5 MPa and an elongation at break of not less than 200% as rubber properties after the vulcanization.
3. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim + 12, wherein the resin is a thermosetting resin.
4. (original) A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein the resin is at least one kind of bismaleimide-based resin.

5. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim + 12, wherein the compound is at least one bismaleimide.

6. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim + 12, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.5-2.0 parts by mass of N,N'-dicyclohexyl-2-benzothiazolyl ~~sulfonamide~~ sulfenamide based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

7. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim + 12, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.02-0.4 part by mass of a cobalt compound as a total content of a cobalt element based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

8. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim + 12, wherein the rubber composition contains 4.0-8.0 parts by mass of sulfur as a vulcanizing agent based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

9. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the resin is a thermosetting resin.

10. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the compound is at least one bismaleimide.

11. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.5-2.0 parts by mass of N,N'-dicyclohexyl-2-benzothiazolyl ~~sulfenamide~~ sulfenamide based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

12. (new): A method of producing a pneumatic tire comprising:

forming a belt layer by:

① successively laminating a coating rubber and a single steel cord or a plurality of steel cords, or

② affixing a single steel cord or a plurality of steel cords previously covered with a coating rubber, or

③ covering a single steel cord or a plurality of steel cords with a coating rubber while shaping and affixing it,

spirally winding the belt layer on a rotating support,

wherein a rubber composition constituting the coating rubber is formed by compounding a rubber component with a compound having a melting point of 120-220°C and/or a resin having a softening point prior to curing of 90-150°C, and a total compounding amount of the compound and the resin is 0.5-25 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.